

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested. Claims 1-4 are pending in the present application, with claim 1 being independent.

Claim rejections under 35 U.S.C §112 and §101

The Examiner rejected: claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C §112, second paragraph, stating that the metes and bounds of the claims cannot be assessed; and under 35 U.S.C. §101, alleging that the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. These rejections are respectfully traversed insofar as they pertain to the presently pending claims.

Applicants have amended claims 1-4 in an effort to place the claims into proper form for U.S. patent practice and in an effort to correct each of the informalities identified by the Examiner in the Office Action.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections and objections are respectfully requested.

Specification

The Examiner objected to the specification because of minor informalities. Applicants submit herewith a substitute specification, correcting each of these informalities and amending the specification in an effort to place the specification into

proper form for U.S. patent practice. Applicants respectfully submit that no new subject matter has been added to the specification.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the objections is respectfully requested.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to the claims because of a few minor informalities. Applicants have amended the claims in an effort to correct these informalities.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Drawings

The Examiner objected to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a), stating that the drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims.

Applicants submit herewith two replacement sheets. No new subject matter has been added. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objected is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

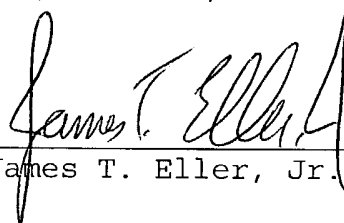
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully

requested to contact Martin R. Geissler (Reg. No. 51,011) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment: Replacement Drawings (2 Sheets)
Substitute Specification
Marked-Up Version of the Original Specification